

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 14-16, 23-25, 28 and 29 are independent, which are hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically at pages 24-25. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 4, 8, 12, 14-16, 19, 23-25, 28 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,668,890 to Winkelman (hereinafter, merely “Winkelman”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,031,937 to Graffagnino (hereinafter, merely “Graffagnino”).

Claim 1, as amended, recites, *inter alia*:

“A data processing apparatus for selectively receiving information data from a plurality of types of input devices
.... wherein first selected devices among the plurality of

types of input devices perform similar processes as the input common processing means, and wherein second selected devices among the plurality of types of input devices perform similar processes as the input variable processing means-” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Winkelman relates to a method and apparatus for analysis of an image original to be reproduced by evaluating image values (R, G, B) acquired by the point-by-point and line-by-line, trichromatic scanning. The image values of a first color space allocated to the input apparatus are transformed into image values of a second color space that is independent of the first color space. The analysis of the image original for calculating setting values for image processing is implemented on the basis of the transformed image values of the second color space. The master analysis on the basis of the image values is implemented in view of image scope, image gradation and/or color cast.

As understood by Applicants, Graffagnino is related to method and apparatus for symmetrically compressing and decompressing video information in real time by coupling block and wavelet techniques. In the compression pipeline, the image is divided into blocks comprising $2^k \times 2^k$ pixels (in the preferred embodiment, $k=1$). The average color of each block is computed. The system computes an average luminance for each block and differential luminances of each pixel of the plurality of pixels of each block. A first plurality of frequency details of each block is determined by Haar transforming the differential luminances. The system computes an average color difference between each block and the preceding block, and quantizes the average color difference and the first plurality of frequency details using Lloyd-Max quantization.

Applicants respectfully submit that Winkelman and Graffagnino, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the data processing apparatus for selectively receiving

information data from a plurality of types of input devices wherein first selected devices among the plurality of types of input devices perform similar processes as the input common processing means, and wherein second selected devices among the plurality of types of input devices perform similar processes as the input variable processing means, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to claim 1, amended independent claims 14-16, 23-25, 28, and 29 are believed to be patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the above-identified reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION


In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicant

By 
William S. Frommer
Reg. No. 25,506
(212) 588-0800